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1945

SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of

PRIDEAUX SELBY, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Medical Officer of Health

With the

ANNUAL REPORT

of

A. J. HURN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

for the

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1945

Printers:

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Faversham

SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1945

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Medical Officer of Health :
PRIDEAUX SELBY, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :
A. J. HURN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present an Annual Report for the year ended December, 31st, 1945.

The Swale Rural District is 109 sq. miles in extent with the main London-Dover Road running through the District from the eastern to the western boundary. The area comprised within the District consists of 37 Parishes, which, together with their Representatives, are enumerated on Page 1.

With this Report is incorporated that of your Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. A. J. Hurn, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres), 70,000.

Population: Registrar General's estimate, 1945, 16,600

Rateable Value, £68,577.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £293 11s. 6d.

Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books), approx., 5,200

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Live Births (Legitimate)	299	Males	155	Females	144
Live Births (Illegitimate)	26	Males	12	Females	14
Still Births (Legitimate)	9	Males	4	Females	5
Still Births (Illegitimate)	2	Males	2	Females	0
Deaths—196.	Males 100, Females 96.				

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 19.6

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 11.1

Deaths from Puerperal Fever Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

All Infants per 1,000 live births 24.6

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births 23.4

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live births 38.5

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	5	5	10
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	0	2
Influenza	0	1	1
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	1	0	1
Cancer	20	14	34
Diabetes	0	3	3
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	11	11	22
Heart Disease	28	36	64
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	0	3
Bronchitis	2	4	6
Pneumonia	4	5	9
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	3	7
Ulcer of Stomach	2	2	4
Other Digestive Diseases	1	1	2
Nephritis	1	1	2
Congenital Malformations Birth and Injury Infant Disease	4	1	5
Road Traffic Accidents	1	0	1
Other violent causes	0	1	1
All other causes	11	8	19
	<hr/> 100	<hr/> 96	<hr/> 196

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Swale area is served by four Water Companies, namely, the Mid-Kent Water Co., the Rainham Waterworks Co., the Faversham Water Co., and the Sittingbourne and Milton Water Company.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The populated parts of the parishes of Newington, Teynham and Lynsted are served with modern systems of sewers and sewage disposal works at Newington and Teynham. Both works are of the Settling Tank Percolating Filter types with Humus Tanks discharging into ditches and thence into the Swale, giving satisfactory results.

CESSPOOLS

In the parishes of Bapchild, Bobbing, Borden, Bredgar, Lower Halstow, Hartlip, Iwade, Kingsdown, Milsted, Newington, Rodmersham, Tonge, Tunstall and Upchurch, the Council empty all cesspools by means of a motor driven vacuum Cesspool Emptier discharging the sewage over orchard and agricultural land, farmers being encouraged to plough furrows to receive the sewage and thus give an even distribution, or by semi-irrigation.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council collect Refuse through the Swale area at intervals of 1 week, 2 weeks, 1 month and 3 months according to the density of the population for each part of the district.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

HOSPITALS

- 1 Small Pox.—Arrangements for treatment of these cases have been made with the Hollingbourne Rural District Small Pox Hospital (Harpswood).
- 2a Keycol Hill Hospital for notifiable Infectious diseases.
- b Keycol Hill Tuberculosis Sanatorium.
- 3 Royal Naval and Marine Maternity Nursing Home, Barnsole Road, Gillingham.

VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS IN THE DISTRICT USED BY THE INHABITANTS

- 1 Memorial Hospital, Sittingbourne.
- 2 Faversham Cottage Hospital.

GENERAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL HOSPITALS

- 1 Kent and Canterbury Hospital.
- 2 West Kent Hospital, Maidstone.
- 3 St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

EYE DISEASES

Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone, Chatham and Canterbury Hospitals.

TUBERCULOSIS

Kent County Council Hospitals.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance attached to Keycol Hill Infectious Hospital. There is also provision for the carriage of non-infectious and accident cases by motor ambulances provided by the Sittingbourne and Milton Joint Ambulance Committee and the St. John Ambulance Brigades in Faversham, Teynham and Sittingbourne.

Institutional Treatment for Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

Maidstone St. Faith's Home, Bearsted.

LABORATORY WORK

The assistance rendered by this branch of the County Council is invaluable and increases every year. Difficult cases of all descriptions are investigated, and so thoroughly and with so little delay that the County

Laboratory has a high reputation for expeditious and reliable diagnosis.
CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES in the District under the Kent County Council

Aural Clinics : 36, Albany Road, Sittingbourne. Aural Surgeon in attendance 2nd Thursday in each month at 1.30 p.m. Aural Nurse in attendance 1st and 3rd Friday mornings in each month at 9.30 a.m.

Dental Clinics : 36, Albany Road, Sittingbourne. Every Monday. 1st, 2nd 4th Wednesdays, 1st, 2nd and 5th Thursdays and 2nd and 4th Fridays from 9.30 a.m. to 3.45 p.m.

School Clinics : 36, Albany Road, Sittingbourne, Friday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 o'clock.

Ophthalmic Clinics : 36, Albany Road, Sittingbourne, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 3rd Wednesday, 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., by appointment.

THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS are held as follows:—

Teynham—St. John's Hut, Thursday, 2 to 4.

Newnham—Village Hall, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2 to 4.

Boughton—Church Hall; alternate Wednesdays, 2 to 4.

Newington—Women's Institute, London Road, Tuesdays 2 to 4.

Selling—Village Hall, alternate Wednesdays.

Hernhill—Women's Institute, 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 2 to 4.

Upchurch—Crown Inn, alternate Thursdays, 2 to 4.

Borden, Tunstall and Bredgar—Borden Vicarage, 2 to 4.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Ante-Natal Clinics are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays in every month at the Faversham Centre, at Teynham from 10 a.m. to 12 o'clock, at the St. John's Hut 1st Thursday in each month, and at Newington 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings. Midwives supervise in all districts.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS

Faversham Tuberculosis Clinic, 13, South Road, Faversham. Males and Females, Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN THE AREA OF THE SWALE RURAL DISTRICT

	Approximate Roll for 1945			
Bapchild and Tonge C.E.	79
Bobbing Council	47
Borden C.E.	144
Boughton-under-Blean	53
Boughton-under-Blean—Methodist	106
Bredgar C.E.	67
Doddington Council	95
Dunkirk Council	100
Eastling Council	68
Graveney Council	43
Hartlip Endowed	40
Hernhill C.E.	74
Iwade Council	68
Lower Halstow	89
Luddenham Council	31
Lynsted Council	88
Milsted and Frinsted C.E.	47
Newington	120
Norton C.E.	37
Rodmersham Council	46
Selling	104
Sheldwich Council	79
Stalisfield Council	36
Teynham Par.—Mixed	124
Teynham Par.—Infants	69
Throwley C.E.	42
Tunstall C.E.	53
Upchurch C.E.	64
Upchurch C.E.	55

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Excluding Tuberculosis)

	Deaths	No. of Cases Notified	No. of Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever	0	18	17
Diphtheria	0	6	5
Pneumonia	9	14	2
Puerperal Fever	0	6	4
Erysipelas	0	5	2
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	0	3	3
Dysentery Sonn�	0	11	1
	9	63	34

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(Under Age Groups)

	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	1	1	6
Diphtheria	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pneumonia	2	3	0	0	0	2
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dysentery Sonn�	0	0	0	1	1	1

		10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65	Total
Scarlet Fever	.....	4	4	2	0	0	0	18
Diphtheria	.....	2	1	1	0	0	0	6
Pneumonia	.....	0	2	1	1	1	2	14
Erysipelas	.....	0	1	2	0	1	1	5
Puerperal Fever	.....	0	2	4	0	0	0	6
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
Dysentery Sonn�	0	0	1	0	1	0	5
Dysentery Sonn�	Non Civilian Cases						6
Measles	..... 245 cases	Whooping Cough						75 cases

TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1939

Under these Regulations the Medical Officer of Health is required to keep an up-to-date Register of all notified cases.
The cases during the year were as follows:—

	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Total
No. on Register, 1st January, 1945	66	34	100
No. on Register, 31st December, 1945	57	33	90
Number of new cases 17	Number of Deaths		9

NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Age Periods		Non Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
		Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F
1- 5 .....		...	...	...	...	...	...
5-10 .....		...	...	1	...	...	...
10-15 .....		...	1	...	...	...	...
15-20		1	...	...	...	...	...
20-25		4	1	...	2	...	...
25-35		6	...	...	1	...	...
35-45		1	...	...	1	...	...
45-55 .....		...	...	...	2	...	...
55-65 .....		...	...	...	1	...	...
65 and over ..		...	...	...	1	1	...
Totals ...		12	2	1	2	4	5

DIPHtheria IMMUNISATION

Number of Births in the year 1944	316
Number of Children immunised in 1945—aged 1 year	111
“ “ “ “ “ “ aged 2 years	35
“ “ “ “ “ “ aged 3 years	6
“ “ “ “ “ “ aged 4 years	9
“ “ “ “ “ “ aged 5-9 years	18
“ “ “ “ “ “ aged 10-14 years	5
Total	184

I must express my appreciation of the very excellent work done by Mr. A. J. Hurn, your Chief Sanitary Inspector, in the past twelve years in the district.

On Mr. A. J. Hurn relinquishing his appointment as Chief Sanitary Inspector during November, he was succeeded by Mr. R. K. Dunning.

I would also express my appreciation of the excellent work done by Mr. C. G. A. Rudd, Additional Sanitary Inspector, during the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PRIDEAUX G. SELBY,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

SWALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Year Ended 31st December, 1945

Public Health Dept.,
Newton House,
Faversham.

June, 1946.

To Dr. Prideaux Selby.
Medical Officer of Health,
Swale Rural District Council.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of work carried out by this Department during the year ended 31st December, 1945.

1 GENERAL

Number of House Inspections	124
Number of House Re-inspections	187
	<hr/> 311 <hr/>
Number of Notices served :—	
Preliminary	49
Statutory	—
	<hr/> 49 <hr/>
Number of complaints received	12
Number of letters written	129
Number of School Notices (Infectious Disease)	15

2 HOUSING DEFECTS

Lighting and Ventilation	19
Walls repaired	27
Ceilings repaired	13
Roofs repaired	42
Floors repaired	25
Eaves gutter repaired	6
Yards paved	3
Dampness remedied	13
Premises cleansed	2
Miscellaneous	33

3 DRAINS AND CESSPOOLS

New Drains	10
Drains relaid and repaired	6
Drains cleared	7
Drains tested	10
New baths and lavatory basins	5
New sinks	11
Cesspools and septic tanks constructed	7
Cesspool abolished	1
Cesspools repaired	2
New gulley traps	12

4 CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

New water closets constructed	13
Water laid to W.C.'s	7
New pans and traps	7
Privies abolished	5
Structures repaired/renewed	7

5 WATER SUPPLY

Samples taken for Analysis	16
Wells cleaned	0
Wells repaired	0
Houses connected to main	31

6 COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

Number of Cowkeepers on Register	58
Number of Retail Purveyors on Register	63
Number of Premises on Register	118
Number of inspections	182
Number of defects found	5
Number of defects remedied	5
Number of samples taken	47

7 MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

The following articles of food have been condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year :—

37 Cartons Egg Substitute Powder.

18lbs. Cheese.

1 tin Chopped Ham.

There are no private slaughterhouses in operation and all home-killed meat is inspected at Government controlled slaughterhouses outside the area of the Council.

8 MILK SUPPLY

There are 58 Milk Producers on the Council's register. Tuberculin Tested Milk is produced at seven and Accredited Milk at five farms.

A few minor defects at Cowsheds and Dairies were dealt with during the year but generally speaking the premises are kept in a satisfactory condition.

9 WATER SUPPLY

Sixteen samples of water from various supplies including the mains of the Water Companies, have been taken and submitted to the County Pathologist for examination. Two were unsatisfactory and main water has since been laid on to the premises concerned.

The Parishes of Luddenham and Buckland are still without a sufficient water supply, but it is anticipated that this will be remedied in the very near future. Otherwise the District generally is well provided for.

10 HOUSING

A fair amount of house repair work has been carried out during the year despite the prevailing difficulties due to shortage of labour and materials. Most of the work is now carried out under licence and only work of an urgent and essential nature is permitted.

On 30th November I terminated my appointment as Chief Sanitary Inspector to the Swale Rural District Council and the particulars for this report for the month of December have been kindly provided by the Additional Sanitary Inspector. On relinquishing my appointment to take up a similar post with the Borough of Faversham may I express my very sincere thanks to you, Sir, for your kindly support and assistance during a number of years. I would also thank the Members of the Council, the Public Health Staff and my fellow Officers for their kind co-operation at all times during my tenure of office.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

A. J. HURN,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

